

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/R:ORM:CCPAPPAS, JR.:JK

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TO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, WZ, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES V.A. SHANGE AND R. B.

ZIKALALA

REF.: MBABANE 2057; MBABANE 3191

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED TWO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES ON CASES OF V. A. SHANGE AND R. B. ZIKALALA AND FAMILIES; FIRST FROM SENATOR SCHWEIKER AND SECOND FROM SENATOR KENNEDY.

2. SCHWEIKER INQUIRY FORWARDED LETTER FROM DR. RICHARD P. STEVENS STATING THAT BOTH WERE FACING DEPORTATION FROM SWAZILAND AND WILL BE FORCED TO RETURN TO SOUTH AFRICA. STEVENS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SPECIAL BILL FOR BOTH. DEPARTMENT REPLIED THAT AS SIGNATORY TO CONVENTION RELATING TO STATUS OF REFUGEES, SWAZILAND HAD COMMITMENT NOT TO RETURN SUBJECTS TO COUNTRY WHERE THEIR LIFE OR FREEDOM WOULD BE THREATENED BECAUSE OF RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, POLITICAL OPINION OR MEMBERSHIP IN PARTICULAR

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SOCIAL GROUP. WE INFORMED SENATOR THAT SWAZIS WERE MAKING NO MOVE TO ENFORCE DEPORTATION PENDING RESETTLEMENT ATTEMPT UNHCR IN CANADA, NETHERLANDS OR UK. WE SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF RESETTLEMENT IN AN AFRICAN STATE WHERE BOTH

COULD PURSUE IMMIGRATION OR STUDY IN U. S. OR ANOTHER COUNTRY WITHOUT TIME PRESSURE CAUSED BY REVOCATION OF SWAZI RESIDENCE PERMITS. COPY OF REPLY BEING POUCHED.

3. SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE INQUIRED BY TELEPHONE ABOUT CASE AND WAS GIVEN SUBSTANTIALLY SAME REPLY. HOWEVER, WE AGREED SEEK LATEST STATUS REPORT ON UNHCR EFFORTS AND WATCH CLOSELY ANY POSSIBLE MOVE TO RETURN SUBJECTS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE LATEST INFO TO ENABLE US REPLY TO INQUIRY. EMBASSY MIGHT WISH DISCUSS CASE WITH SICOTTE SUGGESTING POSSIBLE RESETTLEMENT IN ANOTHER AFRICAN STATE. ALTHOUGH THIS MIGHT NOT BE FIRST CHOICE OF EITHER ZIKALALA OR SHANGE, IT DOES REMOVE THEM FROM ANY DANGER OF RETURN TO SOUTH AFRICA. RUSH

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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